

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

STATE: ARIZONA

COUNTY: YAVAPAI

REPORT OF:

LUCINDA E. HUGHES

FROM: DECEMBER 1, 1947 to NOVEMBER 30, 1948

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PREFACE:

The following narrative report is a summary of the agent's activities in Yavapai County for the year 1947-1948. A total of one hundred and ninety-two days were spent in the county by the agent.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all State and County Extension workers who have given their most valuable aid and assistance throughout the year.

#### OUTLOOK:

The outlook for the 1948-49 year for the Home Demonstration program in this county is very good. The ever increasing number of requests for the Home Demonstration Agent's time shows that there is definitely a growing recognition of the need for her services in the county. Because this is such a large county with Mingus Mountain more or less dividing the county in halves, it is difficult for the agent to get representatives from all clubs together for leader training meetings or any other type of training meetings.

The 4-H club outlook is also most promising. With the successes of each 4-H club in a community, it is becoming possible to get leaders for new clubs in these same communities.

## ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING - ADULT

Organization was and still is one of the main problems of the Home Demonstration Agent's program. Only one new Homemakers' club with a membership of twenty-four was organized this year in the Humboldt-Dewey vicinity. This Homemakers' club, though only six months old, is very active. They meet twice monthly. The first meeting each month they carry the county Home Demonstration program and the second meeting monthly they have civic welfare betterment and entertainment, for example this fall they held a reception and pot luck dinner for the teachers.

Through the influence and work of these Homemakers' clubs in the county, the Yavapai County Fair exhibits were very noticeably increased. Those clubs which did not actually have a community booth, took the responsibility for collecting individual exhibits, bringing them to the fair and entering them for the individuals. Both the Bridgeport and Humboldt-Dewey Homemakers' Clubs had community booth exhibits. They won second and third places respectively.

COMMUNITY BOOTHS AT YAVAPAI COUNTY FAIR, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA



Chino Valley Relief Society - 1st place

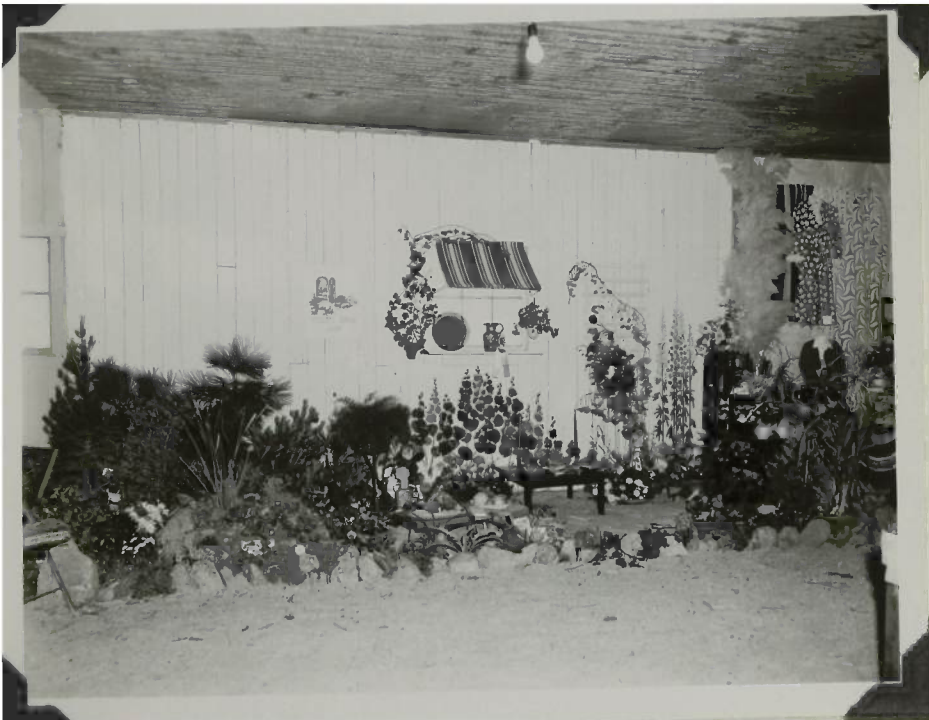


Bridgeport Homemakers' Club - 2nd place





Dewey-Humboldt Homemakers' Club - 3rd place



Prescott Garden Club - 4th place

All clubs having winning booths except the Garden Club were actively sponsored by the Home Demonstration Agent.

One of the most worthwhile projects of all Homemakers' clubs in Yavapai County is their 100% sponsorship of the 4-H clubs. Regardless of which - Homemakers' or 4-H clubs - was organized first in the community the Homemakers' club members are the leaders of the girls' clubs and the club as a whole pays a good many of the 4-H expenses for camp and other 4-H events. Two homemakers' clubs had as a part of their September meeting the 4-H achievement day program. All of these various activities mentioned in connection with 4-H and Homemakers' clubs were planned with a far reaching view of drawing the entire communities into closer contact and cooperation with each other. It is felt by this agent that close cooperation between all members of a community in education, work, and play leads towards a better life for all.

A Program Planning day was planned for the 27th of October in Clarkdale. This planning day was to be twofold; to bring the representatives of all communities in the agent's three counties together for a day of recreation and education, and second to get each community's specific requests and recommendations for the 1949 county Home Demonstration program. However, due to the prevalence of Polio in the Verde District it was recommended by the Yavapai Polio Control Board that no meetings of such nature be held at that time. Consequently the agent submitted degree of interest questionnaires to each community for their recommendations. The women were very disappointed not to have the joint meeting this year and are eagerly waiting and planning for the same type meeting in 1949.

Individual club plans were made with the L. D. S. groups of Prescott, Cottonwood and lower Oak Creek, the Women's Club of Kirkland and the Homemakers' Clubs of Chino Valley, Humboldt-Dewey, Bridgeport and Camp Verde.

Two representatives from Yavapai County both of the Chino Valley Homemakers' club attended the Country Life Conference held at Tucson in June 1948.





Yavapai and Coconino counties representatives  
at Country Life Conference, Tucson

## THE HOUSE, FURNISHINGS AND SURROUNDINGS - ADULT

### Interior Repair of Furniture

Six demonstrations on the interior repair of furniture and the making of slip covers were held in the county in 1948. There have been requests from those communities having studied this subject in 1947 for additional work in 1949.

Several foot stools were made by the ladies. They used 1" boards and old car springs, then tied, padded and slip covered them. The agent recommended that anyone wishing or needing to do inner repair on her furniture make such a foot stool for practice in all the arts and/or tricks of repairing furniture. Of especial interest is the foot stool made by one of the homemakers who after she got it done - was so proud of it that she wouldn't let anyone use it to put their feet on.

Two davenports and six chairs were repaired and slip covered as a direct result of the furniture repair work done this year along with various minor furniture repair jobs.

One demonstration was given the Kirkland Women's Club on the interior decoration of the home. Samples were shown of various schemes of decoration including rugs, draperies and upholstery materials. The agent wishes to give especial thanks to the Home Management Specialist for her 100% assistance and cooperation in the preparation of this demonstration. The women were very interested in the materials shown and were enthusiastic about some of the combinations of colors.

## NUTRITION AND HEALTH - ADULT

### Food Preservation and Storage

Five pressure canner clinics were held in the county this year. Fifty-two canners were checked, four new "pop offs" and four new gages were recommended. In general the agent feels that the pressure canner gages and "pop offs" were in a better state of repair in 1948 than they were in 1947. The "pop offs" were much cleaner and did not seem to leak as so many of them did last year.

In conjunction with the pressure canner clinics the agent held demonstrations on the use of the jel-meter and the making of jelly. The majority of the ladies had never seen a jel-meter and were most interested not only in its money saving properties but in the labor saving and feeling of security which its use could not help but give them. An interesting and disastrous experience had by a Bridgeport homemaker just previous to our meeting was that she had about three gallons of plum juice to make into jelly, and in her rush to get through before meeting time she attempted to use Certo in her last "batch" of jelly. Following the Certo recipe for plum jelly - confident of a good jelly in a hurry - she poured the Certo into the boiling juice and sugar. Immediately a tough, rubbery, still boiling mass formed. As she said "it would have made a good rubber ball." That night she ordered a jel-meter.

Four demonstrations and innumerable personal discussions were held in the county by the agent on the packaging of foods for the home freezer and freezer locker plant. We in Yavapai County feel most fortunate to have two excellent freezer locker plants and a large number of home freezers in the county. There are also several sources of good packaging materials in Prescott and Cottonwood. The general consensus of opinion with regard to packaging materials from both locker plant operators and homemakers is that they prefer the Thermo-waxed cartons over the glass, the laminated glassine and foil wrap over triple waxed

paper. Both locker plants have the Thermo-wax dip for meats, fowl and fish. However, the cost of packaging meats, etc. in the wax dip is somewhat more expensive than it is when packaged in the laminated papers so the locker operators do not try to push its use. But the important thing is that this type of excellent packaging material is available for use by anyone. Depending upon the length of the storage period and the type material to be stored the agent does or does not recommend its use.

In regard to freezing of foods those homemakers having their own deep freezers have been doing a good bit of this type of freezing. Excellent success is being had by all homemakers who are freezing their cakes, biscuits, breads, rolls and pies. Those homemakers who bake their own bread are making a larger number of loaves at a time and freezing the extra loaves. The reports are that the work is less than half and the results are excellent. Biscuits and fruit pies are not baked until they are needed and are being put into the oven in the frozen state, all other baked goods are cooked before freezing.

All homemakers take so much pride and pleasure in their frozen foods. There is the case of the Chino Valley homemaker who froze peaches in the glass freezer jars. Every time anyone comes to visit her she takes them to her freezer and shows them her peaches. To her they are "the prettiest things."

## FOOD PREPARATION AND SELECTION

The agent held four demonstrations and discussions on the preparation of frozen foods for the table. Perhaps because you cannot see the vegetable losses due to improper cooking the women as a general rule seem to feel that frozen vegetable cookery was not their main problem. To them their problem was the cooking of frozen meats. Whether or not they should thaw it before cooking and if so why. By the end of the demonstration the agent felt relatively certain that all homemakers would thaw all meats before cooking except thin steaks and chops which were to be fried or broiled. The ladies were also glad to know why fruits should be thawed while still sealed.

Perhaps one of the most enthusiastically received demonstrations and discussions was that on the methods of making cakes with appropriate altitude corrections. Three demonstrations were given on this topic. The most common comment among the women was - "how you can make three cakes in a couple of hours. Its an all day's job for me to make just one cake." Contrary to the expectations of the agent the majority of the ladies liked the jelly icing for the cakes ( $\frac{1}{2}$  cup jelly and one egg white, heat over a double boiler with continuous beating until stiff). However, we did discover that a good flavored homemade jelly made a much more "tasty" icing than did even the best commercial jelly. The ladies liked this jelly because it looked pretty, was easy to make and tasted good. Though its storage qualities are poor this did not worry them, as they said, "a cake doesn't last long enough around my home for that to matter."

The women as a whole received a good bit of benefit from the altitude correction tables and from the demonstration of the practical application of them. Many people do not have the ability to read and translate figures into practical application until they have been shown how at least once. A few years ago the majority of the people who had been born and raised in these high altitudes had learned from their mothers and

grandmothers to decrease the leavening agent and sugar and increase the liquid for satisfactory baking, but, today with the changing population many of the homemakers have been unable to make even their "old stand-by recipes" satisfactorily and haven't known why. Therefore, the homemaker who has either learned or, perhaps, re-learned to make a good cake has an improved opinion of herself and her abilities. All of which goes towards making a better, happier home life.



CLOTHING, FAMILY ECONOMICS, PARENT EDUCATION AND  
COMMUNITY LIFE - ADULT

Clothing and Textiles

Five demonstrations were held by the agent on the topic "Short Cuts in Sewing," four on "Neckline and Collar Designing," and one sewing machine clinic. In conjunction with the short cuts in sewing demonstration the agent discussed the "New Look," and how to get it in your old clothes.

The homemakers in all of the agent's three counties are especially interested in any work having to do with clothing. With the drastic changes in styling in 1948 accompanied by the high cost of new clothing, the women were, of necessity, forced to remodel many of their old clothes. Both demonstrations "Short Cuts in Sewing" and "Necklines and Collar Designing" accompanied by the discussions on the "New Look" gave them some new ideas and assistance with this problem. Again, until very recently, it has been most difficult for the women to purchase any type of good quality trimmings and/or bindings for their new or re-modeled clothes. Consequently they were most interested in all types of trimming which the agent was able to show them. How to make continuous bias binding, "perky bows" and the button on "crisp double circle flowers." In connection with the making of continuous bias binding the agent suggested the use of the cutting gage attached to the point of the scissors to keep them from having to mark the entire piece of material but no one was able to buy this simple, little attachment, it was unavailable. Then when we were examining the boxes of sewing machine attachments we found that almost every box of attachments had one of these cutting gages in it.

The majority of the women brought zippers and skirts or a piece of material to the club meetings and practiced putting the zipper in by the "jiffy method." Although most zippers which one buys today give directions for this method of putting them in, it is a rare homemaker

who follows those directions. This is merely an example of the ineffectiveness of the printed word when applied to the average homemaker.

Only one sewing machine clinic was held in Yavapai County this year and this with the assistance of the State Clothing Specialist. There were many other requests for clinics but time did not permit the agent to hold them this Summer. Plans are being made to hold several throughout the county next Summer. The one sewing machine clinic which was held called forth numerous sewing machine adjustment questions from persons not attending the clinic. There are also many specific requests regarding the use of the sewing machine attachments. Apparently the new Singer hemstitcher causes more trouble to the homemaker than any other type of attachment. To the agent there are two explanations for this: first it is a very delicate attachment and second since the initial cost is fairly great anyone that buys a hemstitcher really makes a supreme effort to use it and she is still not too accustomed to reading and following directions.

## MISCELLANEOUS

The agent attended the Yavapai Farm Party in Bridgeport conducted by the Soil Conservation Service with Mr. Dan Freeman in charge. This was a practical more or less result demonstration in soil conservation and over all renovation of a farm. A conservative estimate of the amount of work done on this farm in one day is that \$10,000.00 worth of work was done. Others estimate the work as high as \$35,000.00 to \$40,000.00. Ten thousand cubic yards of dirt were moved in the land leveling operations and four thousand cubic yards were moved in making the storage tank. About three-quarters of a mile of irrigation ditches were built, part plain earth, part cement, part oiled and part concrete which were sprayed with a gunite machine. One of the most interesting operations of this demonstration was the changing of the course of the Verde River and the installation of bank protection. This protection consisted of the stretching of heavy cables along the bank of the river then trees, logs and brush were tied to this cable as well as live willow "spiders." Eventually these live willows will take root and grow, thus forming a permanent protection for the farm land from the river. Of especial interest to the homemaker was the installation of electricity and the electric stove as well as the painting of the house.

Material for this gigantic demonstration was furnished by implement companies of Arizona; seeds and fertilizers by seed companies and labor by farmers and ranchers of the Verde District. Between four thousand and five thousand people from all sections of the West were present.

The agent spent three days at Country Life Conference this year. Yavapai County had two representatives present, Mrs. Paul Knight and Mrs. William Garrison, both of Shino Valley. Everyone seemed to enjoy the conference and I believe that those attending received a good bit of valuable information and inspiration from the meetings.

The agent devoted a good bit of time during August and September to discussions of the Home Economics phases of the county fair. It was decided by two of the homemakers' clubs that they would have community booths. A report and pictures of which are included elsewhere in this report.

The Yavapai County fair of 1948 was a big improvement over that of 1947. There were about eight times as many home economics exhibits this year as there were last year. Plans are already being made for more display space for this department in 1949.

The household arts exhibit of greatest interest was a bleached muslin spread trimmed and embroidered in blue. The designs were original drawings depicting the home ranch house surrounded by ranch and range scenes and symbols of the early days of Arizona.

The agent saved all blue ribbon canned goods from the county fair and sent them down to the State fair at Phoenix.

FOODS EXHIBIT AT YAVAPAI COUNTY FAIR



Canned Foods



Baked Foods





Household Arts Exhibit of greatest interest  
at Yavapai County Fair



#### ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING - 4-H

Five Home Economics 4-H clubs were organized this year in the county but only four completed. There were forty-seven enrollments and twenty-eight completions from the four active clubs. This agent in the absence of a county agent also organized two boys' clubs that completed. This Fall (1948) nine Home Economics clubs have been organized but they will be reported next year.

The Chino Valley junior and senior girls' clubs meet monthly during the winter of 1948 for recreation and community entertainment. The senior club gave several plays at the Fort Whipple Veterans' Hospital. The entertainment was greatly appreciated by the patients.

These two combined clubs (junior and senior girls) were very much in need of a sewing machine so using their club winnings at the 1947 Yavapai County and Arizona State fairs as a beginning, they planned an old time box supper and later a pie supper. They raised more than enough money to buy a new cabinet type electric Singer sewing machine and bench. Needless to say the entire community is very proud of this particular achievement of the 4-H members.

Two members from the Chino Valley senior girls' club represented Yavapai County at the 4-H Roundup in Tucson, taking third place in the clothing demonstrations. Then in November 1948 three girls from this same club represented Yavapai county at the Arizona State fair as 4-H clothing judges. As a team they won third place and as individuals Margie Knight took second highest and Marian Garrison third highest awards.

The Bridgeport 4-H club leader, in order to keep interest aroused and so that all members would finish their assignments as soon as possible, had a party or picnic after each article was completed. Of especial interest to both the leader and the agent, was the development of two little Mexican girls who

attended camp. When they came to camp they were apparently afraid and very shy but by the end of camp they were participating in all activities and having as much fun as anyone else. Through this and other similar experiences the agent feels that the Bridgeport 4-H club will really accomplish a great deal next year.



Yavapai and Coconino Counties'  
4-H representatives, leader and agent at 4-H Roundup,  
Tucson. Front row left to right: Jackie Converse,  
Yavapai, Clothing Demonstration; Jean Olsen, Coconino,  
Dress Review; Marian Garrison, Yavapai, Clothing Demon-  
stration. Back row left to right, Mrs. J. Olsen,  
Coconino, Leader, and Home Demonstration Agent.

## NUTRITION AND HEALTH - 4-H

### Food Selection and Preparation

Nine girls of Cottonwood were enrolled in the 4-H First Year Foods club and seven completed their projects. These girls who were just learning to cook, had practically had no previous experience in cooking at home. The leader had them bring materials for their cooking meetings to her home and had them do the majority of their first time cooking of each item at club meetings. These girls, starting so young in club work, have a good opportunity to give us excellent foods judging and demonstration teams in a year or two.

### Health and Safety

Three boys from Chino, three boys from Humboldt and four girls from Cottonwood attended the 4-H summer camp at Prescott this year and took back to their individual and community clubs definite ideas on health and safety. The Chino Valley girls' club gave a Health and Safety play at the combined achievement day.

In combination with the State and Assistant State 4-H Club leaders and the county agent, this agent attended the combined 4-H achievement night at Humboldt. At this time a picture on farm safety was shown. This same type picture was also shown to 4-H organization groups at Cottonwood, Camp Verde and Cornville.



Chino Valley 4-H club after having their chests  
X-Rayed at the Yavapai County Fair

#### CLOTHING AND TEXTILES - 4-H

Five 4-H clothing clubs were organized but only four clubs completed in the county this year. There was a total of forty-seven girls enrolled in the first and second year clothing clubs with twenty-eight completing. The reason that many of the girls enrolled and then did not complete was because their project meetings were held in the summer time and they had no transportation to club meetings. It is felt by the agent that these girls are really getting a lot of valuable sewing experience from their club work.

The Chino Valley girls' club has assisted many of the girls in doing their own sewing and sewing for nieces and small sisters. This club is also making clothes for a destitute family in their community. They are doing this for their community service project but without their previous clothing projects they would not have been able to do this community service.

The Humboldt-Dewey group of 4-H girls learned a valuable lesson this year in their clothing project work. They decided, without consulting the agent, that they would make skirts instead of the little apron. This involved so many techniques with which they were unfamiliar and uninstructed that their finished product was very inferior. Another year these girls will make the articles which are definitely outlined for them to make.

The agent gave demonstrations to the Humboldt-Dewey and the Cottonwood club on the making of the 4-H sewing boxes. The results were most gratifying.

Two girls from the Chino Valley senior club qualified to attend the 4-H Roundup at Tucson as a Clothing Demonstration team. They demonstrated "How to Make a Fringed Head Scarf." Third place was awarded them for this demonstration.



**MISCELLANEOUS - 4-H**

The agent spent four days at 4-H Roundup at Tucson. A discussion of which is included elsewhere in this report.

The agent spent six days at the 4-H camp held at Groom Creek at which Yavapai County was represented by twelve boys and girls. The agent was in charge of the K P's, gave the lecture "Straight and Tall," assisted with crafts and was in charge of "Lets Make Baskets." This agent feels that camp was a definite success and that the campers really received a lot of value from their experiences while there. The agent was especially proud of the camping spirit shown by the 4-H members attending from Yavapai County, especially so since none of them had ever attended anything of the sort before. It is hoped that another year we may have double the representation present from this county.

The agent attended the State Fair at Phoenix in order to take a clothing judging team. This team as such placed third in competition, however second and third places as individual 4-H judges were won by Margie Knight and Marian Garrison respectively. Although these girls attended the fair primarily for the judging competition they received much other valuable information and had a lot of fun.

SUMMARY:

The agent spent a total of one hundred and ninety-two days in Yavapai County. Work was done in the fields of: Organization and planning, home furnishings (inner repair of furniture and slip covering), food preservation (canning and freezing and jelly making), food selection and preparation (method of cake making and altitude corrections), clothing and textiles (short cuts in sewing, alterations of necklines and collar designing, sewing machine clinics (cleaning, oiling and use of attachments) and 4-H club work.

Home Demonstration work was done in six communities of Yavapai County during 1947-1948. The demand for home demonstration work in other communities of the county is increasing and the agent feels that more time should be spent in the county but at the present time that is impossible.